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a new social conscience: "We must get the vision that the welfare of a nation is based upon that of its humblest citizens, that property was made for man and not man for property."

This book is valuable as well as interesting because it is an expression of the growing tendency of our courts to place increasing emphasis upon the necessity of making their decisions from the viewpoint of the greatest public welfare rather than being controlled in their decisions by a strict adherence to technicality and precedent.

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*Poverty and Riches; A Study of the Industrial Régime.* By SCOTT NEARING, PH.D. Philadelphia: John C. Winston Co., 1916. Pp. 256; 16 plates. \$1.00.

This, the latest of Nearing's books, is written with the author's characteristic interest and enthusiasm. Its title is somewhat misleading, for little is said about "riches."

Individualism is contrasted with socialism, and blame for the problems of industry, such as poverty, vice, child labor, long hours, and bad housing, is attributed to the policy of *laissez faire*, which permits the rich and strong to exploit the poor and weak. The history of England's experience during the industrial revolution is used to prove this.

While the invention of machinery has enabled man to produce more, it has made the worker the slave of his machine. Under our present organization the ordinary worker cannot earn a living wage; in fact, the American wage is antisocial. Modern industry calls for only a few leaders and a large number of followers, and so does not train for leadership but for obedience to orders, and tramples out initiative. While poverty causes vice, crime, and disease, and starves initiative, riches sap initiative by removing the stimulus to activity, thus leading to parasitism.

In the last chapter, entitled "Industrial Democracy," which is perhaps the weakest in the book, the author pleads for liberty and equality of opportunity, and for a change from an industrial system which places dollars above souls, although he suggests no remedy.

The work is decidedly for the popular reader and contributes little to the subject of poverty. Its enthusiasm and ingenuity, however, make the book a very interesting one to read. It is a pity that some of the illustrations were not omitted.

G. S. Dow

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